やくならマグカップも

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TAKUNARA MUG CUP MO

A story, set in Tajimi, about high schoolgirls and the Togei-bu, pottery club.

FREE MANGA

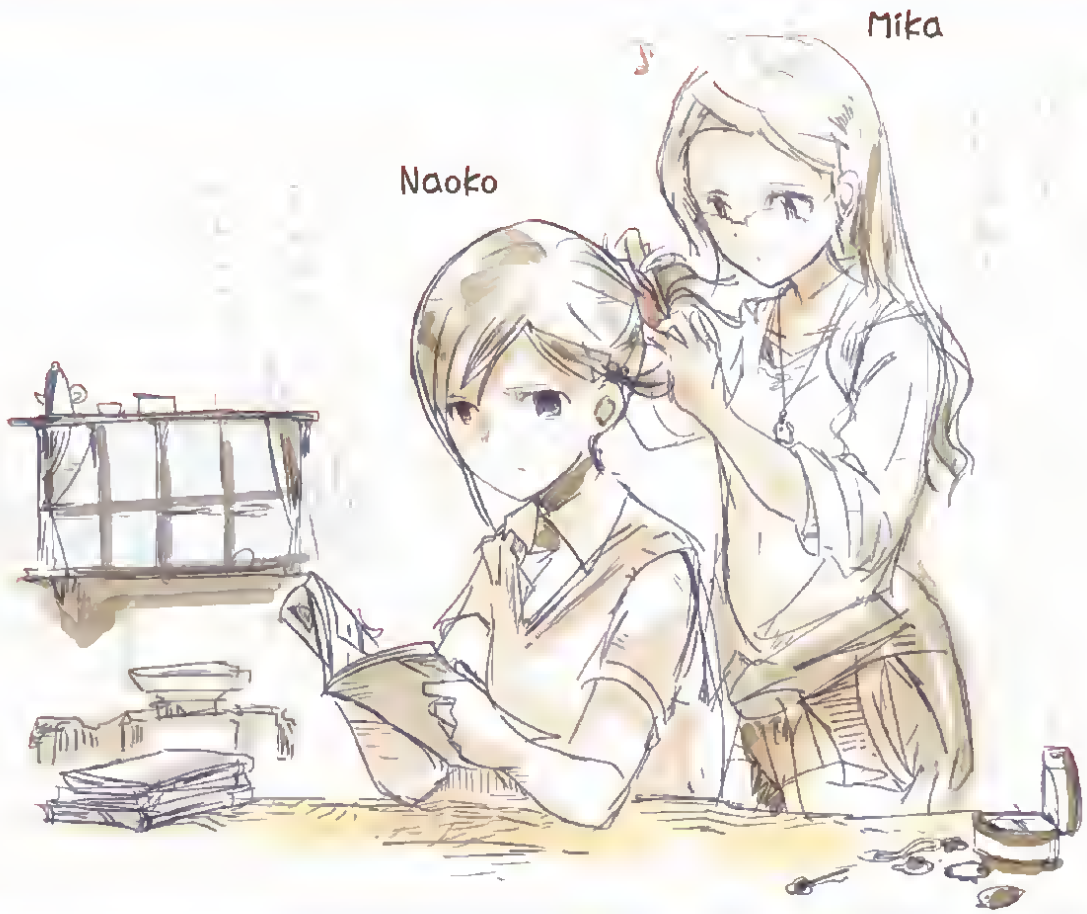
Thank you for taking the time to read this magazine. “Yakunara Mug Cup Mo” is a free publication put out by a group of people who love Tajimi. We call it “Kurukuru Rokuro Manga.”

The city of Tajimi, located in the southern part of Gifu Prefecture, Japan, is famous for Mino earthenware. The city is dotted with historical pottery producers and ceramic art museums. It has facilities where you can try your hand at making pottery, and many restaurants that serve food on Minoware dishes.

The story begins when a high school girl moves to a shopping street in Tajimi. Many encounters await her, friends, town folk, ceramic art, etc. What will she discover in a town famous for ceramics?

“Yakunara Mug Cup Mo” is a collaborative work by many people involved with Tajimi’s pottery culture. Like it's main characters, “Yakunara Mug Cup Mo” will develop slowly. We invite you to watch it grow.

Yakunara Mug Cup Mo staff

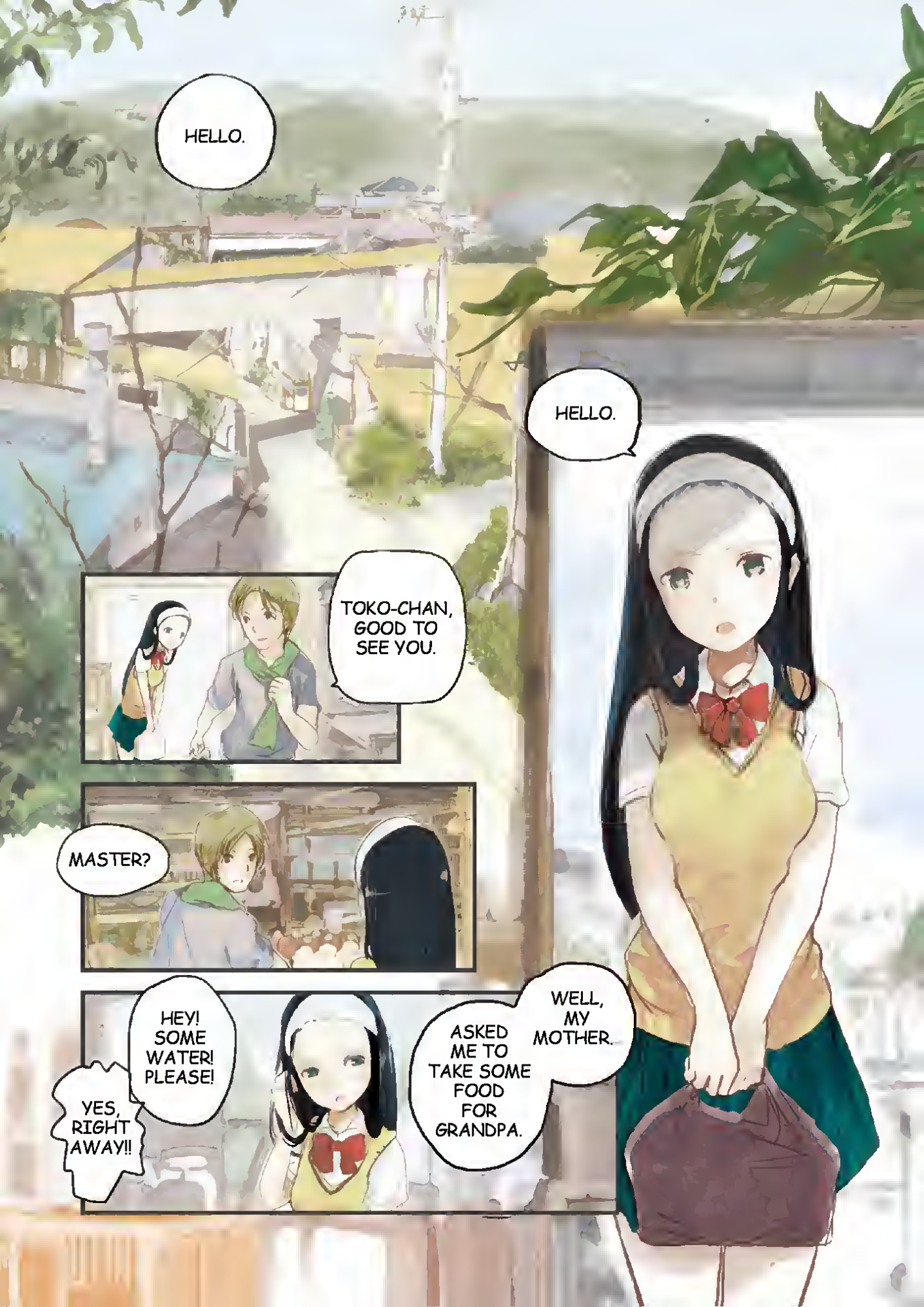


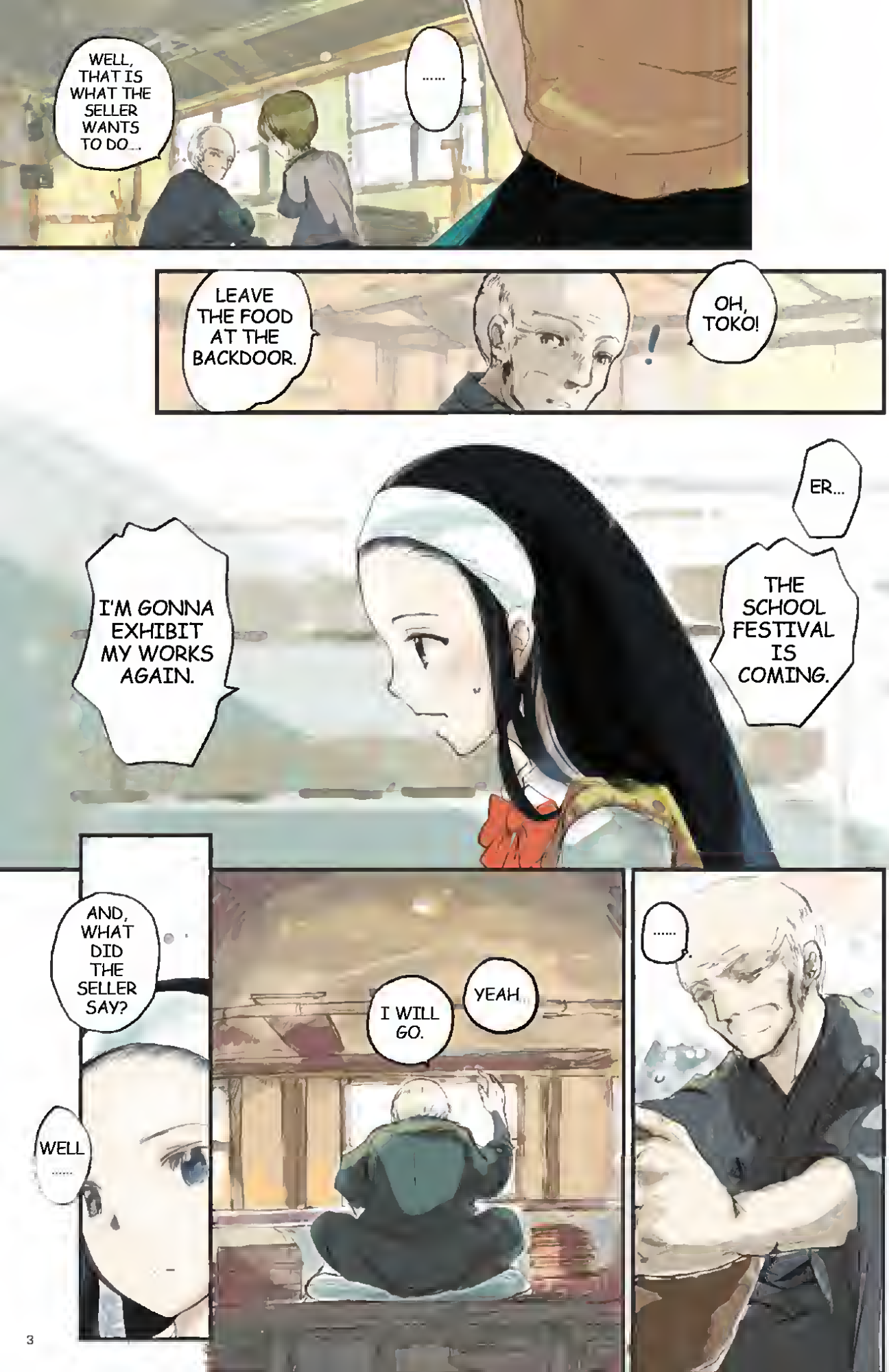
EPISODE 04

TOKO AND THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL

PREVIOUS EPISODE

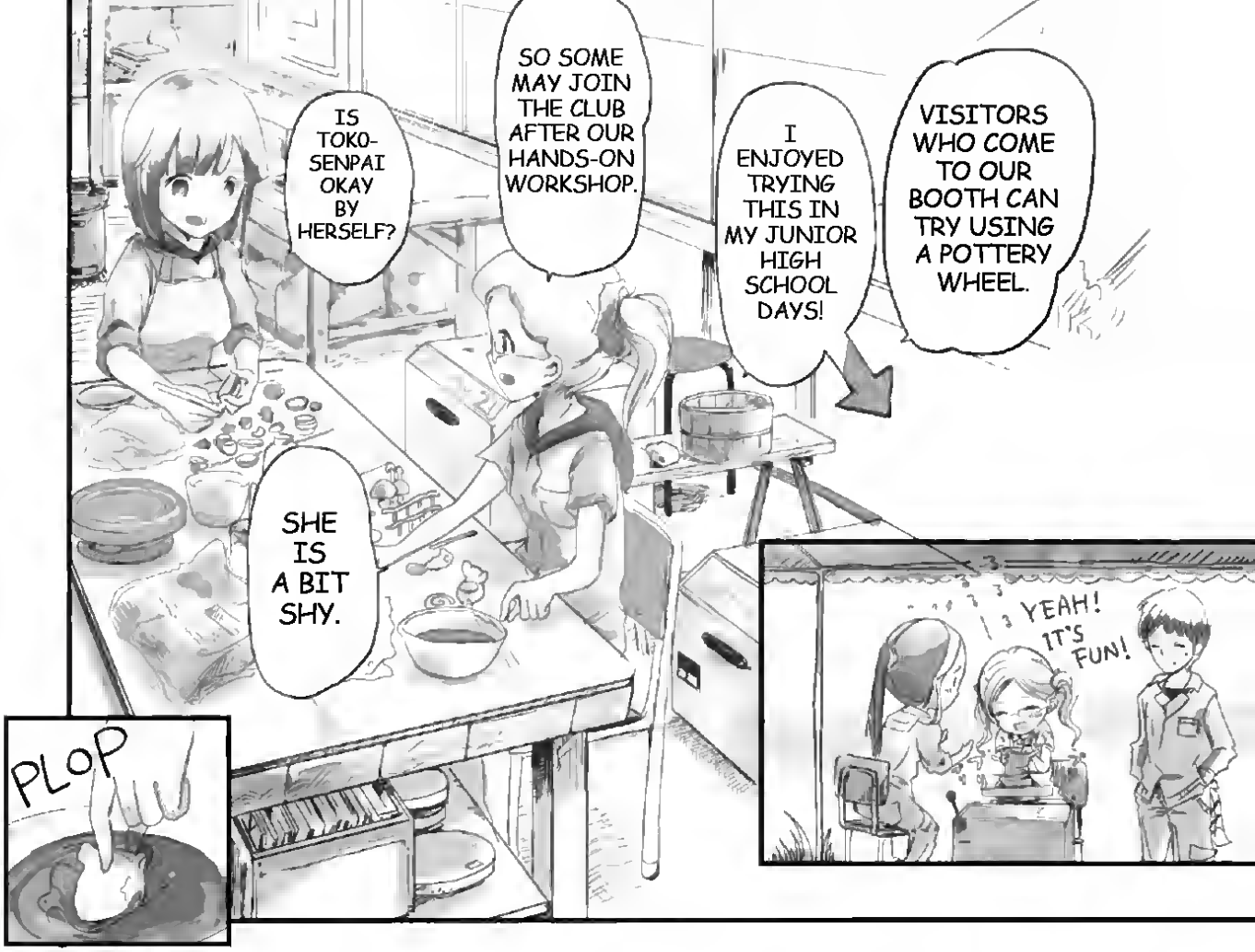
HIMENO MOVED TO HER MOTHER'S HOMETOWN TAJIMI BECAUSE OF HIMENO'S FATHER'S WORK. ON THE FIRST DAY AT A NEW SCHOOL, HIMENO WAS TAKEN TO THE TOGEI-BU, POTTERY CLUB, BY HER CLASSMATE MIKA. HIMENO WAS AMAZED TO LEARN THAT HER MOTHER WAS A FAMOUS POTTER. TO LEARN ABOUT TOGEI AND HER MOTHER'S LEGACY, SHE DECIDED TO JOIN THE TOGEI-BU


HELLO.
HELLO.
TOKO-CHAN, GOOD TO SEE YOU.
MASTER?
HEY! SOME WATER! PLEASE!
YES, RIGHT AWAY!!
ASKED ME TO TAKE SOME FOOD FOR GRANDPA.
WELL, MY MOTHER.

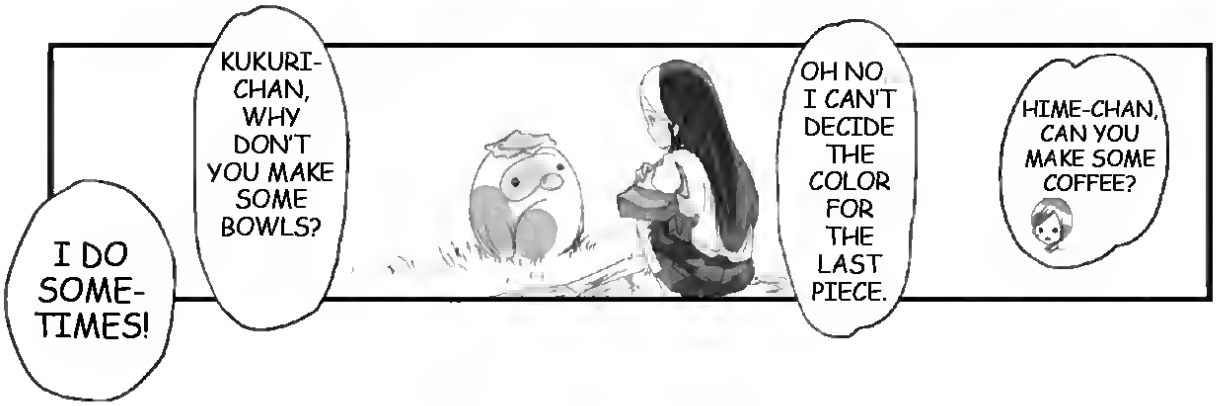

WELL, THAT IS WHAT THE SELLER WANTS TO DO...
.....
LEAVE THE FOOD AT THE BACKDOOR.
!
OH, TOKO!
ER...
THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL IS COMING.
I'M GONNA EXHIBIT MY WORKS AGAIN.
AND, WHAT DID THE SELLER SAY?
WELL .....
I WILL GO.
YEAH...
.....

LET'S SHORTEN THE SKIRT JAST A LITTLE.
I'LL DO IT! I WANT TO WEAR SOME-THING CUTE.
IT CAN'T BE HELPED. WE'LL GET THE BOYS TO DO IT.
NO WAY!
NAT-CHAN. WILL YOU?
DO WE HAVE ENOUGH SERVERS FOR THE SECOND DAY OF THE FESTIVAL?
WE ARE BUSY!
HEY, TOGEI-BU! YOU DON'T LOOK BUSY.
KUKU-RI-CHAN, YOU'RE GOOD AT DRAWING.

CONSIDERING WHERE THE TOGEI-BU BOOTH IS, NOT MANY PEOPLE COME, EVERY YEAR.
SEE?!
I'LL BE BUSY WITH LOTS OF VISITORS!!
YOU LOOK BORED
DISPLAY OUR POTTERY, THEN THERE'S THE TRIAL EXPERIENCE, ASK VISITORS' NAMES, WHAT ELSE IS THERE TO DO...?
BING-BONG BANG-BONG
HI!
NAO-CHAN!
TOGETHER? THAT SOUNDS MESSED UP.
WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE ON THAT?
A HAUNTED HOUSE WITH PORK MISO SOUP
MISO SOUP.
A HAUNTED HOUSE AND PORK
WHAT IS YOUR CLASS DOING?
AT THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL,

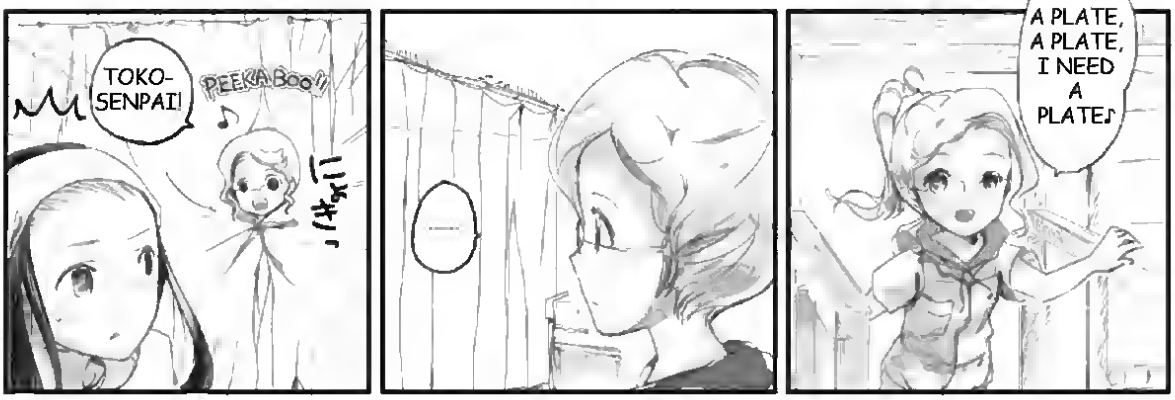

IS TOKO-SENPAI OKAY BY HERSELF?
SO SOME MAY JOIN THE CLUB AFTER OUR HANDS-ON WORKSHOP.
I ENJOYED TRYING THIS IN MY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL DAYS!
VISITORS WHO COME TO OUR BOOTH CAN TRY USING A POTTERY WHEEL.
SHE IS A BIT SHY.
PLOP
YEAH! IT'S FUN!

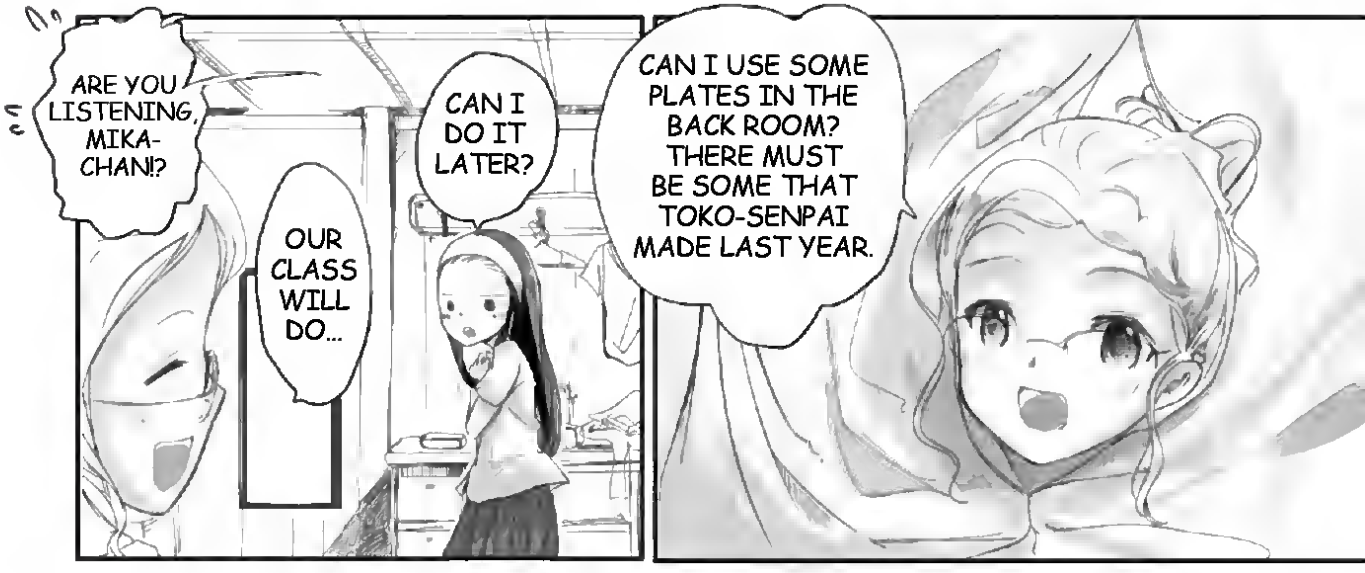
SINCE SHE WAS SMALL.
SINCE WHEN HAS SHE BEEN SHY?

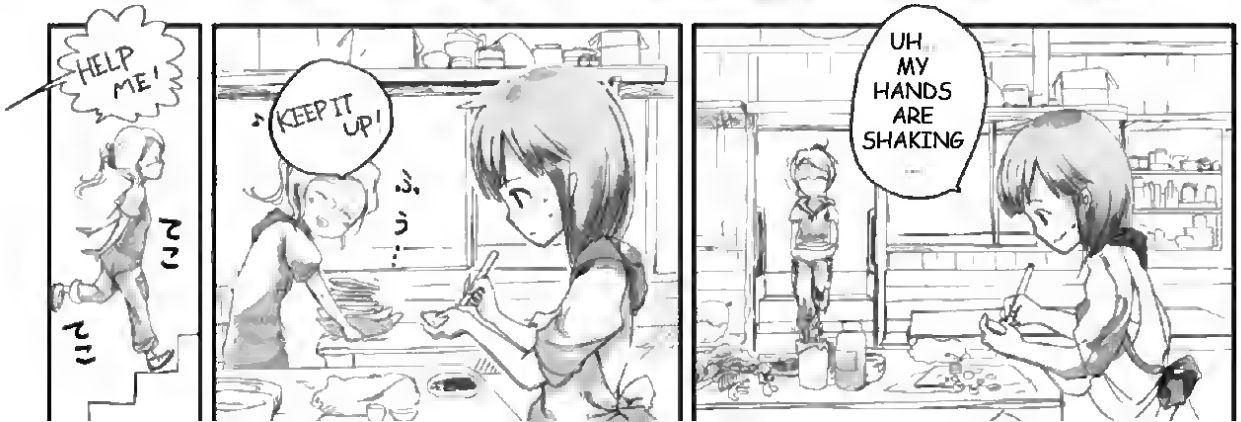

KUKURI-CHAN, WHY DON'T YOU MAKE SOME BOWLS?
I DO SOME-TIMES!
OH NO I CAN'T DECIDE THE COLOR FOR THE LAST PIECE.
HIME-CHAN, CAN YOU MAKE SOME COFFEE?

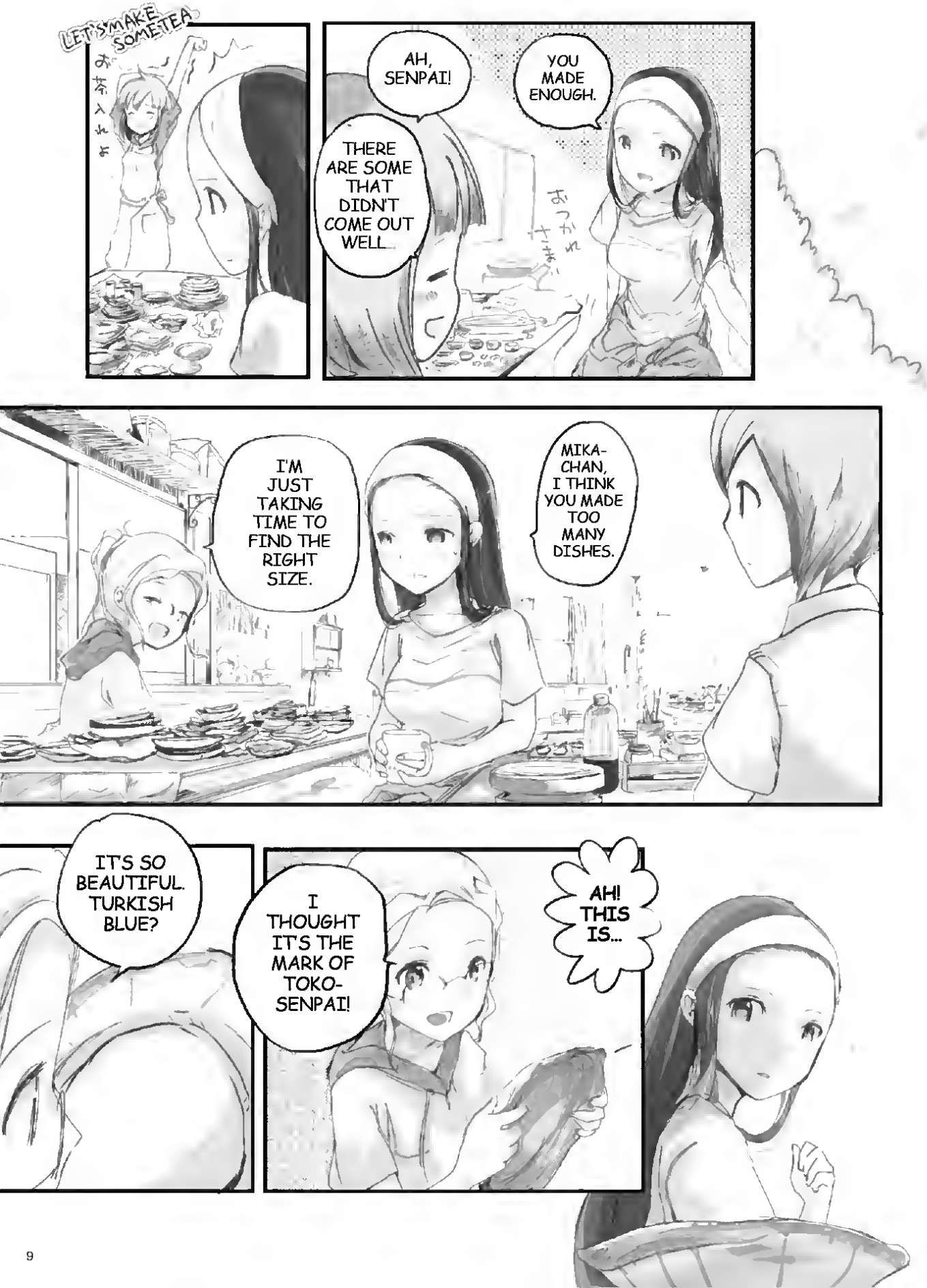
SENPAI! KUKURI-CHAN.....
I GOT CAUGHT UP IN MY HOME-ROOM.
TOKO-SENPAI!
GYAA-A-A-A-A
RED!!
TOKO-SENPAI
ね ね
?
?
てってって
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? WASH YOUR HANDS.
コッ

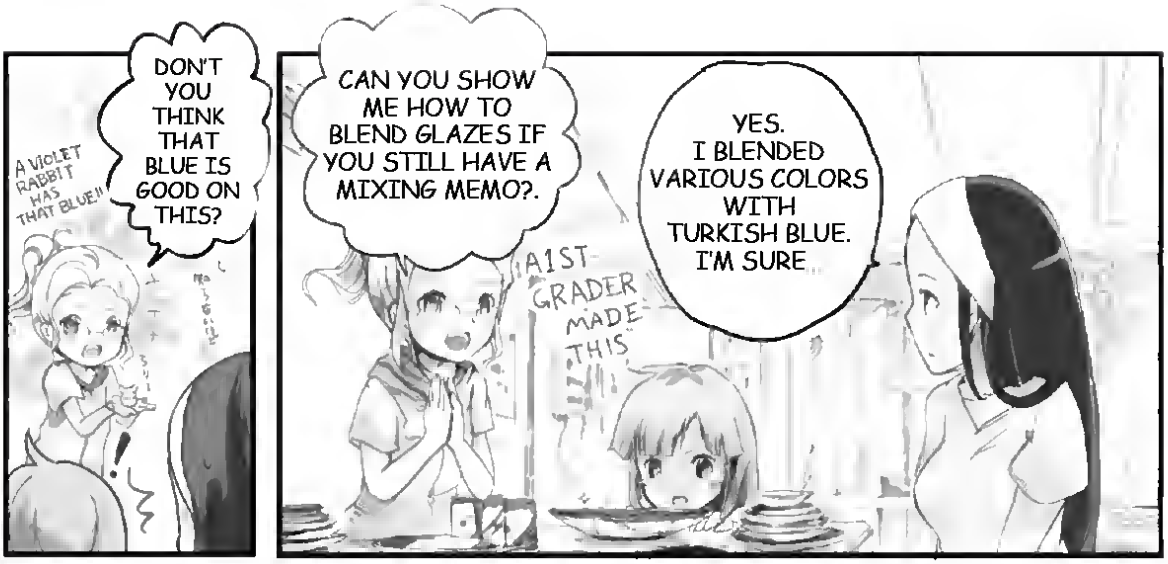
ARE YOU COM-ING IN?


TOKO-SENPAI!
PEEKA-BOO♪
A PLATE, A PLATE, I NEED A PLATE♪


ARE YOU LISTENING, MIKA-CHAN!?
OUR CLASS WILL DO...
CAN I DO IT LATER?
CAN I USE SOME PLATES IN THE BACK ROOM? THERE MUST BE SOME THAT TOKO-SENPAI MADE LAST YEAR.


HELP ME!
KEEP IT UP!
UH... MY HANDS ARE SHAKING


LET'S MAKE SOME TEA
おぶんよぉ
AH, SENPAI!
YOU MADE ENOUGH.
THERE ARE SOME THAT DIDN'T COME OUT WELL...
おつかれさまぁ
I'M JUST TAKING TIME TO FIND THE RIGHT SIZE.
MIKA-CHAN, I THINK YOU MADE TOO MANY DISHES.
IT'S SO BEAUTIFUL. TURKISH BLUE?
I THOUGHT IT'S THE MARK OF TOKO-SENPAI!
AH! THIS IS...

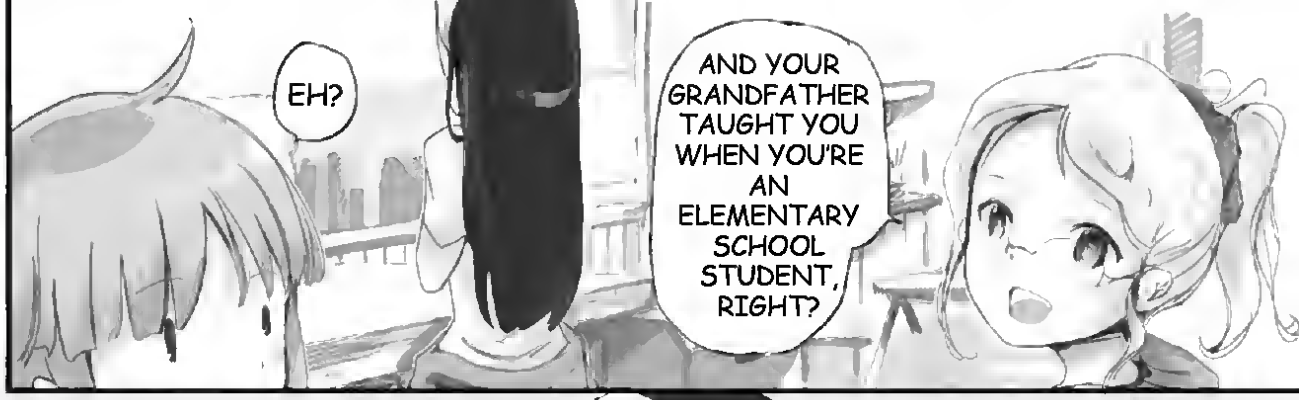

A VIOLET RABBIT HAS THAT BLUE!!
DON'T YOU THINK THAT BLUE IS GOOD ON THIS?
CAN YOU SHOW ME HOW TO BLEND GLAZES IF YOU STILL HAVE A MIXING MEMO?.
A1ST-GRADER MADE THIS
YES. I BLENDED VARIOUS COLORS WITH TURKISH BLUE. I'M SURE

HIMENO-SAN THAT SUPPOSED TO BE "SHINO".

PLEASE GLAZE MY CUP WITH THAT COLOR!
GREAT IDEA!
ばーん

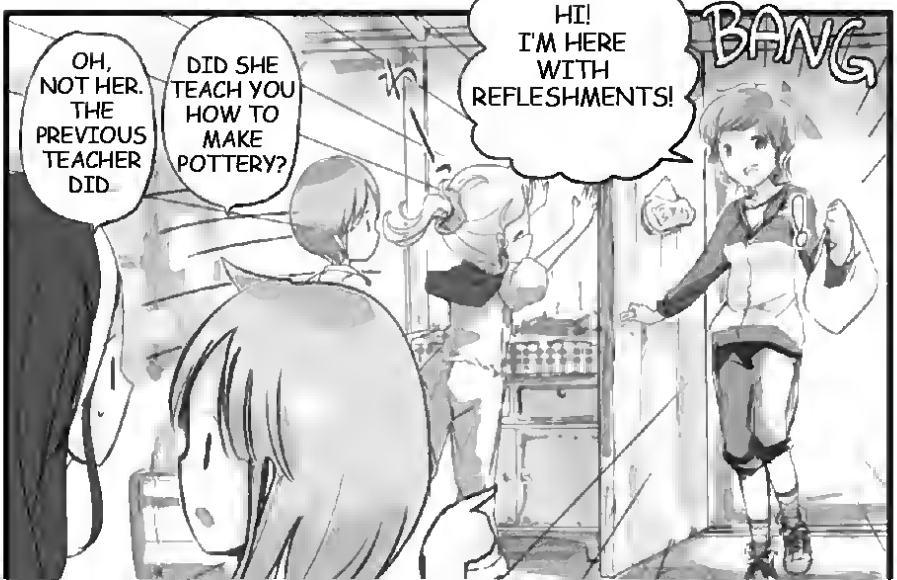
YOU ARE GENIUS! I'M IMPRESSED!
WOOOW!!
I WANT TO SURPRISE HIM WITH A NICE CUP
MY FATHER IS COMING
TO SCHOOL FESTI-VAL

"SHINO" IS WORTH MAKING TOO.
I HAVE A MIXING MEMO, BUT I HALF REALIZED ON MY 6TH SENSE.
I'M SORRY...
THIS IS A VERY DELICATE COLOR TO MAKE.
I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL
I'LL TRY!!
I SEE.
YES!!
TOKO-SENPAI!
RIGHT?
THERE IS A LOT MORE TO "SHINO" THAN YOU THINK.
SHE'S RIGHT. YOU NEVER KNOW HOW IT'LL BE.
TAUGHT ME...
MY TEACHER AND SENIORS
OUR TEACHER?
IT LOOKS DIFFICULT TO DO
TOUGH!!
HOW DID YOU LEARN SUCH A TECHNIQUE?


EH?
AND YOUR GRANDFATHER TAUGHT YOU WHEN YOU'RE AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT, RIGHT?

FOR MANY REASONS.
HE SEEMS TO BE VERY BUSY NOW.

WHEN I WAS SMALL.
...OH WELL.


OH, NOT HER. THE PREVIOUS TEACHER DID.
DID SHE TEACH YOU HOW TO MAKE POTTERY?
HI! I'M HERE WITH REFLESHMENTS!
BANG

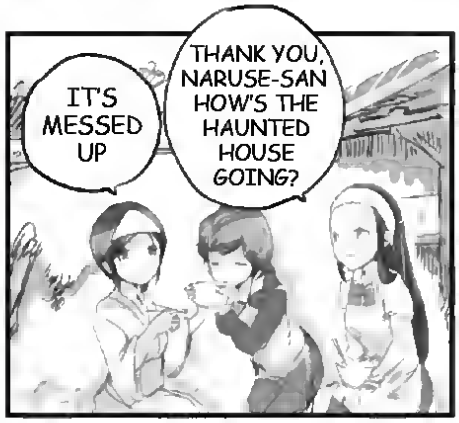
MEMBERS OF THE DRAMA AND BRASS BAND CLUB WILL BE TOO BUSY TO HELP YOU.
CAN I ASK HIMENO AND MIKA TO HELP WITH THEIR CLASS PROGRAM ON THE 2ND DAY OF THE FESTIVAL?
GOBBLE GOBBLE
CRUNCH CRUNCH
I WANT TO STAY AWAY FROM RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS.
I'LL HELP YOU AS MUCH AS I CAN.
IN THAT CASE, HOW ABOUT NOT DOING A HANDS-ON WORKSHOP?
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ONLY TO DISPLAY OUR WORKS. YOU CAN DO IT!
I FORGET TO TELL YOU ABOUT THAT!
I HOPE NO ONE BREAKS OUR POTTERY.
21
22
KEEP IT UP
24
I WON'T LET YOU BEAT ME
23
IF NOT, WHY DON'T YOU HELP ME!
NO! WE NEED NEW MEMBERS!
ごお～

26
27
28
HELLO, DAD!
HI! YOU LOOK GREAT, HIMENO!
YOU'RE EMBARRASS-ING ME.
THAT'S ENOUGH! ORDER PLEASE!
AND THEN, YOU OVERMINCED SOME VEGETABLES.
THIS REMINDS ME OF YOUR ART FESTIVAL IN THE 5TH GRADE
YOU DRSSED UP SO CUTE IN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL HOME ECONOMCS CLUB

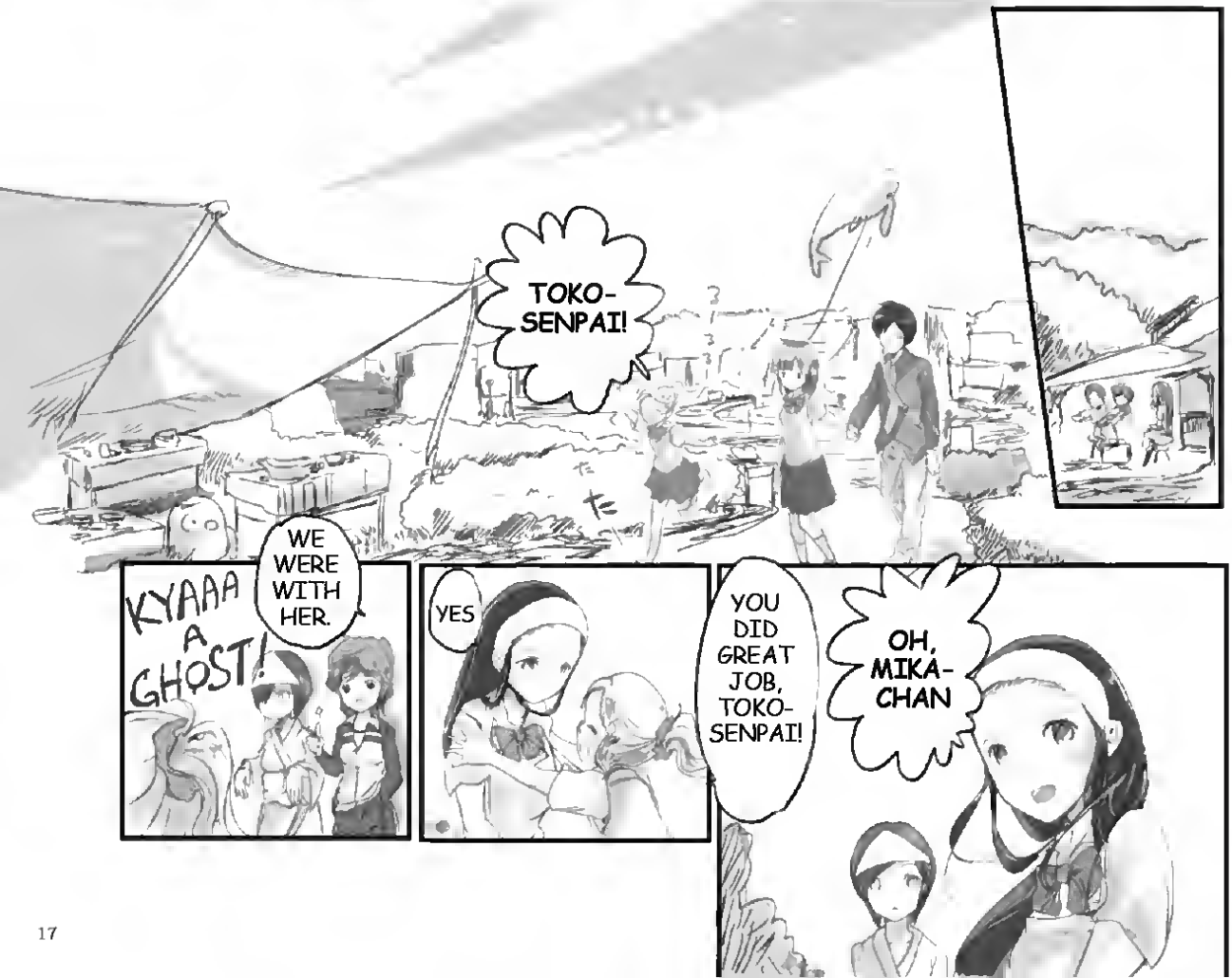
SOON, LET'S TAKE TURNS AND SEE THE TOGEI-BU DISPLAY!
WHAT DELICIOUS SOUP!
I CAN SERVE IT AT MY SHOP.
WHAT
CAN'T YOU HAVE IT LATER?
JUST A BITE
STOPPED
DON'T BLOW ALL YOUR MONEY TOO SOON!
THIS IS GOOD DO YOU WANT SOME?
YEAH, YEAH.
EXCUSE ME!

THIS LOOKS GOOD. CAN I PICK IT UP AND LOOK AT IT?
YOU'RE DOING GREAT! JOIN THE TOGEI-BU!
かんたんっすね
?!
HELLO!
HI!
BUMP
TOKO. SMILE!
TO
OKO
SAN
THIS IS A SOUVENIR. FOR YOU, IF YOU LIKE.

NA NARUSE-SAN!
HOW ABOUT PORK SOUP?


IT'S MESSED UP
THANK YOU, NARUSE-SAN HOW'S THE HAUNTED HOUSE GOING?

GOOD WORK.


TOKO-SENPAI!
KYAAA A GHOST!
WE WERE WITH HER.
YES
YOU DID GREAT JOB, TOKO-SENPAI!
OH, MIKA-CHAN

I'M SORRY. THAT'S TOKO-SENPAI'S.
THIS IS AMAZING. BY ANY CHANCE
D DON'T EXPECT TOO MUCH OF ME.
BETTER THAN MY MOTHER'S?
HA HA HA
THE ROUGH SPOTS WERE CLEANED UP.
THESE ARE MY FIRST WORKS.
REALLY?
YEAH, YEAH, THEY LOOK VERY NICE.

HE ISN'T COMING...
TOKO-SENPAI
A LITTLE LATER.
SHALL I GO WITH YOU?
TOKO-SENPAI! WHY DON'T YOU LOOK AROUND THE FESTIVAL?
WHAAAT! WHEN DID YOU START DATING?
A BOY FRIEND?
ARE YOU WAITING FOR SOMEONE?
I HAVE ASKED AND CALLED HIM TO COME MANY TIMES, BUT...
G
GRAND-FATHER
YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG!
EH? WHY KEEP IT SECRET? THAT'S NOT NICE.
I'M SO GLAD YOUR GRANDPA IS COMING THIS YEAR, TOKO-SENPAI!

TOKO-SENPAI...
IT'LL BE BORING FOR HIM TO SEE STUDENTS' WORKS.
AND
HE IS BUSY. I'M SURE HE WON'T COME.
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?
HE'S GOT TO SEE WHAT YOU MADE!
IT CAN'T BE!
WHAT CAN I DO ABOUT IT?
COME ON TOKO-CHAN!!
HE HAS TO COME THIS YEAR.
C, CALM DOWN, MIKA-CHAN.
NOW!? IT'S IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FESTIVAL!
LET'S GO AND PICK HIM UP NOW.
YOU AND I COULD'VE ASKED HIM TO COME.
TOKO-SAN TALKS LIKE THAT AND WAITS.

PLEASE COME AND SEE.
TOKO-SENPAI HAS BEEN WORKING SO HARD EVERY DAY!
I WANT TO SAY THAT.
ME TOO
YES! SHE'S RIGHT!
WHY DON'T YOU WALK AROUND TO CHECK THE DELICIOUS TAKOYAKI MADE BY THE CHEMISTRY CLUB
STARE

ARE YOU SURE YOU WON'T WAIT FOR HIM?
.. YES
THANK YOU.
TOKO-SENPAI!
KEEP WORKING! HIMENO!
GIVE ME ANOTHER MINUTE...
TH THAT'S ENOUGH, THANK YOU.
I'M PUTTING IT BACK TO THE ORIGINAL SHAPE OOPS!
CAN YOU WAIT A MINUTE?
SMUSH

THE KIDS DO EVERY-THING.
YOU'RE AN ADVISOR OF THE TOGEI-BU.
SOMETHING IS WRONG WITH THE POTTERY WHEEL!
TEACHER!
YOU'RE TOKO-CHAN'S.....
THANK YOU FOR BEING NICE TO TOKO.
WELL DONE.
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE POTTERY WHEEL?
EXCUSE ME, I'D BETTER GO.
TEA-CHER!!
TOKO-SAN HAS BEEN DOING A GOOD JOB.

MASTER IS OUT RIGHT NOW, TOKO-CHAN.
HELLO.
WOW, BEAUTIFUL...
.....
ALL HIS WORKS.
I'LL WORK HARDER!
ALL RIGHT!
LET'S DO IT!
LOOKS ALIVE...

School festival of the high school in Japan

Cultural festival / School festival

Most Japanese higb schools annually conduct a "cultural festival". This is also called a "school festival", and it is the biggest event that takes place regularly at most scbools.
Many scbool festivals have names wbich have been handed down from generation to generation. Four high scbools in Tajimi bold festivals with distinct names.
It is also common in Japan for festivals to take place in elementary scbools, junior higb schools, universities, communities and various organizations.

High Schools in Tajimi

In Tajimi higb scbools, the new school year starts in April. The summer vacation lasts about a month from the end of July to the end of August. During that time, club activities and make-up lessons are planned, and many students come to school. Students prepare for the school festival during the summer break. Classes or teams that perform in the festival need a lot of time to prepare.

High schools in Tajimi carry out scbool festivals over two days in September, just after the summer vacation, or in October. Depending on the scbool, there are activities that show their uniqueness through students or guardians' participation. Some scbools open their festival to the public while others perform have private festivals.

Oribe Gakuen High School's "Origakusai"

In the fictional high school where tbe characters in "Yakunara Mug Cup Mo" study, the scbool festival is called as "Origakusai", and it is open to the public. They participate in the class program in turns and sell pottery on site. They must spend a lot of time preparing the festival's theme, and plan so that everybody has a good time. On the day of the scbool festival, they also enjoy mingling with other students, teachers and people from the local community.

Significance of School Festivals

A school festivals is a full-participation type of event. It is held in accordance with aims endorsed by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology; these are formation of buman relations, affiliation with others, deepening solidarity, fostering community-mindedness, and the general advancement of a healthy school life. A festival is also designed to promote the scbools' own policy, aim and theme for the year.

Program by a class, a team or club

In scbool festivals, stalls and performances are run by classes, teams, clubs and the organizations that students belong to. Eacb student has a certain role and they work together to perform original plays, create large works of art, realize theme parks, and play concerts. They learn bow to cooperate, strengthen solidarity, carry out their assignments and feel a sense of achievement through the scbool festival.

A "class" is a type of affiliation. Students work togetber toward a common purpose. But unlike club activities which have a predetermined course, in festivals the students form a bond of solidarity. They migbt design a class t-shirt, and in sucb activities you can see the product of their cooperation.

All photos provided by Individuals

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